ESSAGES FOR POSTERITY A CENTURY HENCE

Great Thoughts of Famous Men to Be Preserved in Imperishable Records for All Time—Sealed Envelopes I am not governed by prince the process of the spectators' pockets, of the spectators' pockets. I have to consider theatre rents, the rate of interest needed to the process to me without any reference to my almost rents to me without any reference to my almost rents to find myself per dispersion in the process of the spectators' pockets, of the spectators' pockets. I have to consider theatre rents, the rate of interest needed to the public verdict will be: "The man who dies thus rich dies to me without any reference to my almost rents to find myself per dispersion in the process of the spectators' pockets, of the manager's pocket, of the manager's pocket, of the manager's pocket, of the spectators' pockets. I have to consider theatre rents, the rate of interest needed to the public verdict will be: "The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced." Such in my opinion is the for Descendants of Families of the Present Generation sessed of a theme in the following manto Be Deposited in One of the Pyramids of Egypt to work to write down conversations the preservation of the utterances of actly as they occurred and from the know of goes further in settling inter-

F you were asked to deliver a message to your descendants 100 years hence, in 2013, what would you

these are enough to put the wise in- men good will. quirer on the track of the rest.

By Alfonso, King of Spain. The best kind of glory which is my

pockets. I have to consider theatre rents, the rate of interest needed to tempt capitalists to face the risks of disgraced." Such in my opinion is the financing theatres, the extent to which true gospel concerning wealth, obedi-the magic of art can break through commercial prudence. I could tell solve the question of the rich and poor, many other secrets of my trade, but and to bring peace on earth, among

(Written on a holiday at Windermere in Cumberland.) Lincoln.

All that we are trying to do is to apply the principles of Abraham Lin-coln to the issues of the present day. He fought in his time for social and the same fight in our time. He sought o make the Constitution and the courts instruments for securing justice, instead of barriers to prevent the abolition of justice. This is precisely what we are seeking to do. He worked in a spirit of sane and tempered radicalism. We work in the same spirit. He used practical common sense as a servant of lofty idealism. We strive to show the same practical common sense, and the same devotion to high ideals.

By Sir Arthur Wing Pinero.

When you sit in your stall at the theatre and see a play moving across the stage, it all seems so easy and natural you feel as though the author had improvised it. The characters, being, let us hope, ordinary human beings, say nothing very remarkable, nothing, you think (thereby paying the author the highest compliment), that might not guite well have occurred to you. When you take up a playbook (if you ever do take one up) it strikes you as being a very trifling thing-a mere insubstantial pamphlet beside the imposing bulk of the latest six shilling novel. Little do you guess that every page of the play has cost more care, severer mental tension, if not more actual manual labor, than any chapter of a novel, though it be fifty pages long.

By Sir Hiram Maxim

At the present moment flying machines and screw propellers are much more efficient than either Prof. Langley or myself imagined.

Most certainly flying machines will have a strong tendency to put a stop to wars, at least between first class nations, because those who are responsible for the war will find themselves in the "firing line," an uncomfortable position that they have generally avoided up to the present time.

A thousand aeroplanes can be built for the cost of one first class battleship.

Sir Willian Crookes's Dark Proph-

All civilized nations stand in deadly peril of not having enough to eat. As mouths multiply food resources dwindle. Land is a limited quantity and the land that will grow wheat is totally unequal to the strain put upon it. Under present conditions of low acre yield wheat cannot long retain its dominant position among the foodstuffs of the civilized world.

What is to happen if the present rate of population be maintained, and if arable areas of sufficient extent cannot be adapted and made contributory to the subsistence of so great a host? Are we to go hungry and to know the trial of scarcity? That is the poignant ques-

I have said that starvation may be averted through the laboratory. Before we are in the grip of actual dearth the chemist will come to the rescue of the threatened communities and post-pone the day of famine to so distant a period that we and our sons and grandsons may legitimately live without undue solicitude for the future.

OYSTERS NEW YORK MISSED

"Mattitucks, aren't they?" asked the old time gourmet as the second of his raw oysters disappeared and he leaned back enjoying its flavor. "And mighty good they are too. Do you know we do not enjoy oysters as our fathers did. Oyster cocktails are a crime; condiments of any kind a sacrilege.

"To my notion the best flavored oyster in the world is grown in Long Island Sound less than a hundred miles from this city, and yet we never have them here. When I go to visit my grandson at Yale I always go to one place where I can revel in them. I get them at a couple of Philadelphia clubs, but there they lack their distinctive salty flavor of the deep sea, because Philadelphians prefer oysters that have been 'floated'

and so lost much of their savor. "Just now I will not say where these oysters grow, but come spring and I'll invite you to join me in a trip to the spot. I think I can get the old chap who grows them to take us out on his dredge to the bed that lies between two islands. There he keeps a bed of three and four year olds. Fresh from their eight fathom bed, with an oyster knife as our only table equipment, I'll show you the best flavored oyster in the

"Dr. Wiley, the pure food man, knows them and has spoken in their praise. The late John Starin knew the place and the oysters and tried to buy the spot. Sam Ward-rest his soul!-pronounced them an oyster without an equal, and Larry Jerome, who was a onnoisseur in oysters, was of his opinion. You have heard of Brown, the ro-tund sexton of Grace Church and the dictator to society in his day? He made their acquaintance when he summered in Connecticut, and for many winters he had them shipped to him weekly. But the present generation know nothing of them, I dare say, and wouldn't appre-clate them if they did, for they would mother them with cocktail sauce or lemon and horseradish and so lose the

true flavor. "It's rather strange how New York came to miss those oysters. The man who owned the bed once tried to get Dorlon, who was New York's great ovs terman a full generation ago, to take his produce. Dorlon wanted so many bar-rels a week that the grower could not supply them from his limited acreage, and Dorlon would not take the few he offered to ship. That's where New York oyster lovers lost their chance and the grower a reputation and a possible

"How Philadelphia captured theh marketing I never knew. But I expect ome Quaker discovered them, just as did, by accident, told his dealer and s got the oysters he wanted. I was told not far distant when the man who dies in New Haven last week that one Phila-leaving behind him millions of available delphia dealer takes thirty barrels a day from September to May and from fifteen to twenty barrels a week all swmmer when he can get them.'

If you were a great man and were requested to leave a record for posterity of your best thought or your greatest achievement, something as striking for instance as Nathan Hale's last speech or Perry's "We have met the enemy and they are ours," what would you submit?

The Modern Historic Records Association, with offices at 14 Gramercy Park and a field of activity practically covering the entire world, is making two novel and interesting experiments as part of its work in preserving all kinds of human records of the present for all time. A short time ago it sent two envelopes of imperishable paper to each of its members. In these envelopes each family was requested to place a message to its descendants 100 years from the present date, to be opened in the year 2013. This message might consist of photographs of the family, a genealogical history going as far back as practicable, or anything else deemed worthy of transmission.

Duplicate copies were to be placed in the envelopes. The two sets of envelopes so collected were to be placed in an indestructible box One of these boxes was to be deposited in the New York Public Library, the other in a chamber in one of the pyramids in Egypt. Both were to be opened just 100 years from the present date and the envelopes turned over to the descendants to whom they were addressed.

What interesting documents these messages might prove if they could be read now! Unfortunately, however, the envelopes containing them are sealed and cannot be opened except by those unborn and unnamed persons to whom they are directed.

President Taft, an honorary president of the association, had a set of these envelopes sent to him. It is tempting to conjure what message he thought most important to deliver to his great-greatgreat-grandchildren. In his case it would hardly be a genealogy. It is not likely that he would send photographs, or if he did he would no doubt transmit with them an important message, perhaps a prophecy. What may this message or prophecy be? Those now living shall never know-unless the secret of the prolongation of life be discovered shortly.

The other experiment of the Modern Historic Records Association is more satisfying, because its results are now accessible and can be made public. The association recently sent four parchment pages to well known men of the present all over the world asking them to record on this parchment in indestructible ink the thought or achievement for which they would like to be remembered for all eternity. This ment was to be preserved in such a way that should all other records of heir lives disappear it would perpetuate their memories. The task was not an easy one to execute and the results, as they come in one by one, have proved highly interesting.

This undertaking on the part of the association is only one phase of its aim to preserve all vital records of the day for posterity. It originated slightly more than a year ago, at the instigation of Alexander Konta, and with the cooperation of other men, who realize that posterity may inherit but a poor and fragmentary record of the present day. In the words of the secretary of the association, William George Jordan:

"The last century has left us a better record of its day than we shall leave for the next century. This is due to the fact that our history is being recorded on paper of the most perishable kind. All current records will be wiped out of existence in half a century if they are not preserved in a more permanent form than they are at present. This situation would calamitous to the generations that follow us, and it is to remedy this situation that the Modern Historic Records Association has come into existence.

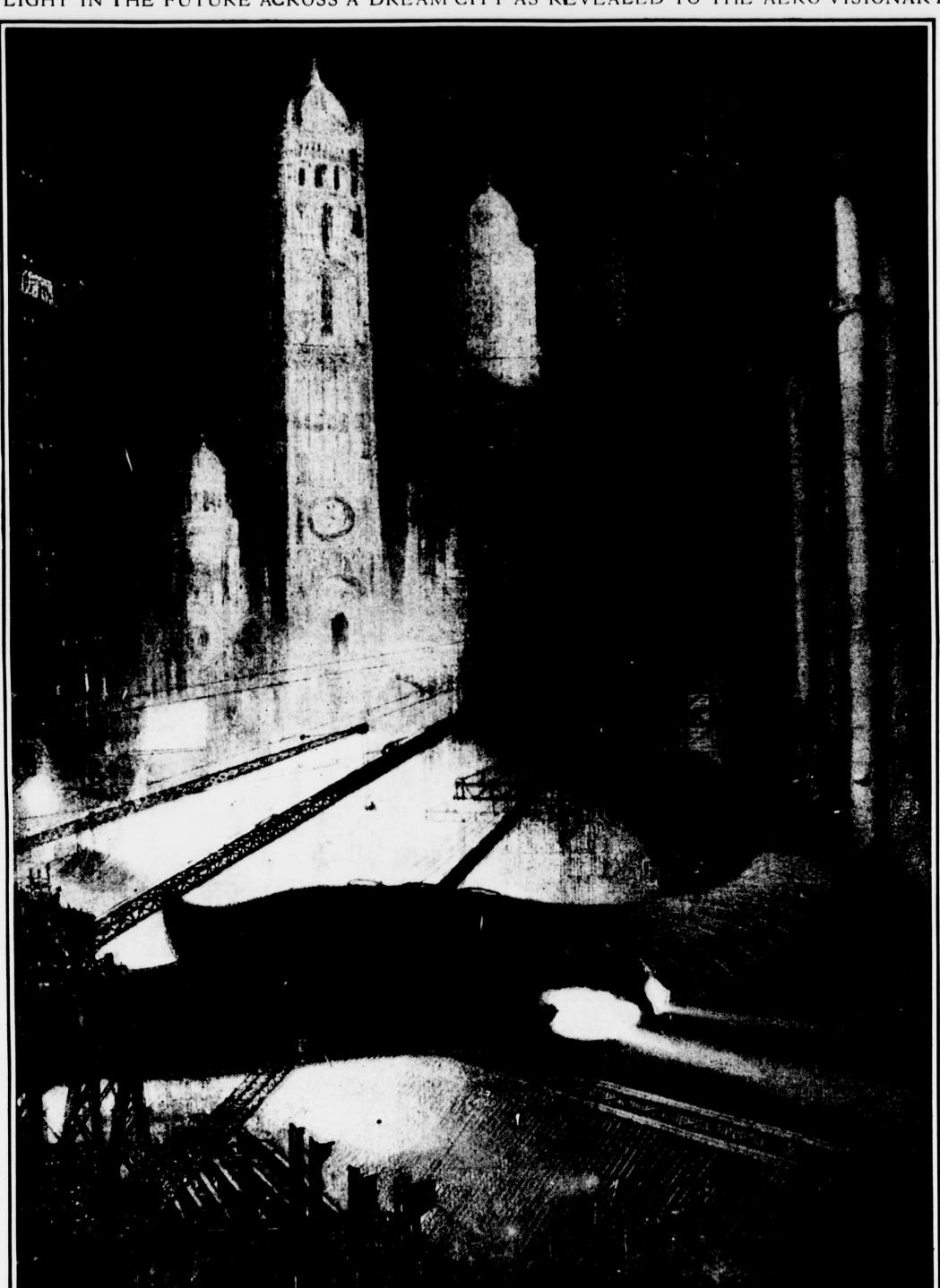
"All our newspapers are now printed on paper made of wood pulp. This is the most perishable kind of paper and one hundred years hence there will probably not be a single paper of the present day in a fair state of preservation. Thus the next century would be robbed of one of the most vital sources of the history of our times. Likewise, vital statistics are now carelessly recorded on paper of a similarly perishable quality. A century hence they will be wiped out of existence and the generations to come will be deprived of the benefit of our extensive ex-

"In order to save these vital statistics and all important documents from destruction by the ravages of time, our association has inaugurated a campaign to preserve them in imperishable form, using all the most advanced modern methods to do so. This is abso lutely necessary nowadays because the records of our time are 'writ in water. In our desperate wish to satisfy the present we have no eye for the fu-

"To take a striking example, the Indian race is rapidly dying out and will soon have disappeared entirely. What is being done to preserve a record of its character, its appearance, its mode of living? Practically nothing. The books which have been written cannot be considered, for like all modern books, they are made of material which will crumble in a short time. Yet the story of this race should be preserved. same may be said of many other phases of contemporary life.

Our association has undertaken to employ the best methods of preserving the vital records of our day, records that will still be fresh when present day documents will have crumbled to The specific objects of the association include the use of the photographic plate as the most durable means

celebrities; of the moving picture ma-chines in obtaining records of important events; and the application of all other suitable means for transmitting to pos-served by the association are more in-FLIGHT IN THE FUTURE ACROSS A DREAM CITY AS REVEALED TO THE AERO VISIONARY industrial justice; and we are making



"DISTANCE DOES NOT EXIST SINCE THESE GREAT BIRDS OF THE AIR HAVE SPED BACK AND FORTH UNDER THE COLD STARS, DESCENDING FROM THAT LONELY ALTITUDE INTO THE NOISE AND BUSTLE UF SOME MIGHTY METROPOLIS." Reproduced by courtesy of The Sphere Drawn by Roderic Hill.

of the life and civilization of the day. The association proposes to erect fireproof buildings for the storage of its records and to duplicate certain records made for educational use throughout

the country. "You will understand the significance of this work when I ask you to imagine what a contribution to the present a moving picture record of the meeting at which the Declaration of Independence was signed would be. Or try to imagine what a phonographic record o Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg address would be like. At present, we get our information at second and third hand from books, but the future generations will be able to see and hear

terity a vivid and comprehensive record | teresting than the messages to posterity | eral treaties of arbitration with the submitted by famous men. Each has great Powers of the world. understood that his message will remain as a permanent memorial and it is natural to assume that he has put his best thought into the message. those who have submitted parchments are President Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, Andrew Carnegie, Alfonso, King Spain; George Bernard Shaw, Arthur Wing Pinero, Sir William Ramsay and Maurice Maeterlinck. Some of the messages are as follows:

By President Taft.

in my hatred of war and my earnest de- ment." sire to avoid war. I believe that we men, that the dramatists are governed have made great strides toward peace by principles or that they have any

The defeat in the Senate of the treaties of arbitration with England and France was a great disappointment to I have sounded the people all over the United States and I am convinced that they are with me on this question, and whether in or out of office I shall continue to raise my voice in favor of international arbitration.

Bernard Shaw's Inspiration.

I am asked to "define the principles that govern the dramatist in his selec-I yield to no man in my love of peace, tion of themes and his method of treat-But pray who told you, gentleof preserving records and documents; of things of great historic importance ex- within the last decade. No one that I choice in the selection of themes and

been moved to set down. This is not being "guided by principles"; it is hallucination; and sane hallucination is what we call play or drama.

I do not select my methods; they are mposed on me by a hundred considera-By the physical conditions of theatrical representation, by the laws devised by the municipality to guard gainst fires and other accidents to which theatres are liable, by the economic conditions of theatrical comnerce, by the nature and limits of the art of acting, by the capacity of the spectators for understanding what they see and hear, and by the accidental circumstances of the particular produc-

it is they are driving at and why they ambition is that of passing into history have said and done the things I have as having obtained the well being of my country.

Dewey's Famous Manila Bay Order. "You may fire when you are ready, Gridley.

Who Dies Rich, Dies Disgraced -Andrew Carnegie.

Men may die without incurring the pity of their fellows still sharers in great business enterprises from which their capital cannot be, or has not been, withdrawn and which is left chiefly at death for public uses, yet the day is wealth which was free for him to distribute during life will pass away "untion in hand. I have to think of my wept, unhonored and unsung" no mat-